



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
HEADQUARTERS, 24th INFANTRY DIVISION (MECH) and FORT RILEY  
FORT RILEY, KANSAS 66442-5000

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

AFZN-GA-AS

16 July 2005

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Fort Riley Retiree Council

Call to Order: A meeting of the Fort Riley Retiree Council was called to order by the chairperson, BG (Ret) Dayle Williamson, USA, at 1020 hours on 16 July 2005.

Invocation: CH (SSG Ret) Carroll G. Everist, USA, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: BG Williamson led council members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Minutes: The minutes of the council's meeting on 16 April 2005 were approved.

Committee Reports:

CSA Retiree Council Committee: BG (Ret) Thomas J. Kennedy, USA, indicated that no new issues for submission had surfaced.

Membership Committee: SGM (Ret) Joseph A. Gilmore, USA, reported that membership on the Fort Riley Retiree Council was full at the moment. BG Kennedy indicated that LTC (Ret) Stanley Sutton, USA, might vacate his position.

Post Exchange and Commissary: SFC (Ret) Robert E. Peterson, USA, reported that PX and Commissary Advisory Committee meetings had restarted. He stated that a new PX would be built in the vicinity of the commissary with expected completion in 2007. He also said that there are plans to add 80 feet to the north side of the commissary.

Irwin Army Hospital and Pharmacy: MSG (Ret) Gaston Catalan, USA, indicated that rumors that a new hospital would be built on post were just that: Rumors.

Topics for Discussion:

Federal and State Legislation: BG Williamson discussed several issues but key among them had to do with Veterans' Medical Care. Of particular concern was that on 28 June 05 the VA indicated it would need between \$1.1 billion and \$1.6 billion over its FY 2006 requested amount because it had failed to consider the impact of extended operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Also discussed was the closure of VA medical facilities in Grand Island and Lincoln, NE. MAJ (Ret) Max W. McAllister, USA, contributed a number of items that came to his attention since the last council meeting.

Newsletter: Ms. Kathy Cunningham-Tucker, RSO, announced that this year's Retirement Services Newsletter was ready for mailing. It should be in retirees' hands by the end of July in ample time for Fort Riley's Retiree Appreciation Day 2005 (RAD 05).

RAD 2005 Update: RAD 05 will be held at Riley's Conference Center on 14 October 2005. Ms. Cunningham-Tucker indicated that the agenda and schedule of events were firm. Council members approved them. MG Dennis E. Hardy, USA, Commanding General, Fort Riley, will be the keynote speaker and COL (Ret) George S. Webb, USA, Executive Director of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs, will be the special guest. Council members were asked to assist in soliciting local businesses for door prizes that can be given away.

Ms. Cunningham-Tucker anticipated that flu shots likely would be available this year in time to be offered at the RAD 05 Health Fair. Regarding the County Fair, she wants to set up an RSO Booth and asked the Special Projects Committee to assist her by attending a planning meeting at the Blue Stem Bistro in Aggieville at 11:30 hours on 9 Sep 05.

RSO Comments/Remarks:

Ms. Cunningham-Tucker said she would be on TDY in Washington D.C. 15-19 Aug 05 attending an RSO workshop there. She also circulated sign-up sheets for volunteers to assist her on "office maintenance" tasks at the close of each month.

Old Business: None

New Business:


CH Everist inquired whether Fort Riley had a web page. Ms. Cunningham-Tucker replied that it does.

Chairman's Remarks:

BG Williamson stated that Ben Nelson, U.S. Senator from Nebraska, has introduced legislation for the creation of a memorial for Merchant Marines who died during World War II. To date, however, the legislation has not received much support.

BG Williamson said he had been a recent guest aboard the USS Nebraska, a nuclear submarine operating in the Pacific. By his description, it is seven stories high to the top of its conning tower and two football fields in length. When operating submerged, it was smooth and quiet. He also commented that the food served on board was delicious.

Adjournment: There being no further old or new business to discuss, BG Kennedy offered a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Motion was seconded and the council adjourned at 1117 hours. The next meeting will be Saturday, 1 Oct 2005, at 1030 hours.



JACK HOAGLAND  
LTC (Ret), USA, Acting Recorder



DAYLE E. WILLIAMSON  
BG, (Ret), USA, Chairperson



KATHY CUNNINGHAM-TUCKER  
DAC, Retirement Services Officer